

Connecticut State Firefighters Association

Education Committee

Meeting minutes

March 28, 2013

Wethersfield Fire Department

Company #3, Kelleher Court

The meeting was called to order at 19:04 with the following representatives present:

Burrville Regional Fire School - Richard Winn
Eastern Connecticut Fire School – Al Hawkins, Les Shull
Fairfield Regional Fire School - Chris Tracy
Hartford County Regional Fire School – Chet Haber
Stamford Regional Fire School – Tony Conte
Wolcott State Fire School - Steve Veneziano
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – Rich Nicol
Connecticut Fire Academy - Jeff Morrissette, Bill Trisler
Connecticut State Firefighters Association - Ted Schroll, Thomas Murphy

No one was present representing the Middlesex County Fire School, the Valley Fire Chiefs' Regional Fire School, or the New Haven Fire Academy

Minutes of the December 2012 meeting were distributed for review.

Motion was made by Chris Tracy, second by Chet Haber to accept the December minutes as presented. Motion carried.

1. Hartford County Regional School

Hartford has a burn scheduled for testing of the thermal lining system on next Tuesday morning at 08:00. Flashings and caulking has been added in order to make the roof structure water tight. These seals have been provided between the chimney and the surrounding surfaces and between the roof surface panels.

The design firm will pick up the costs associated with other building changes.

2. Burrville Fire School

Rich Winn met with DCS on the evening of May 8th. DCS wants to perform additional core borings around the oil-water separator.

3. Fairfield Fire School

Chris Tracy received an offer to supply a letter from legislators in support of their project.

There was a brief discussion about a possible reorganization of DCS. There is no clear direction of administrative changes being made to this agency.

Contracts between DCS and Tecton are completed. These contracts have been reviewed and should be ready for execution soon. The plan by DCS is that Tecton personnel will meet with representatives of all five schools involved in the proposed build outs, followed by a series of meetings with each of the individual school committees.

4. Cheshire Fire School

Glen Washburn from DCS has held discussions with DOC staff. The land transfer has not yet occurred. A draft MOU is being prepared for the Eastern Connecticut Fire School that should serve as a template for the other regional schools.

There was a brief discussion about attempting to meet with the Lieutenant Governor. Chris Tracy and Tony Conte suggested that a good lead in would be a discussion of use of the regional schools to deliver an active shooter program in order to coordinate such activities with all involved agencies.

Bill Trisler, Certification Director reported that his office has 28 written exams and 16 Practical exams currently scheduled. He also reported on the progress in transition to testing to the new NFPA standards of 1001 and 472. Plans are to roll out the new standards for testing on or about January 1, 2014.

Bill also reported that the CFA will host site visits this year from the Pro Board to assess compliance with accreditation standards. He has received new assessment forms which ask how remote testing locations are addressed for compliance. Each school will end up with forms being developed in order to address accreditation standards.

Bill also addressed the scheduling of exams. Applications need to be received in the Certification office at least 10 days in advance of any examination. When these applications are signed by the lead instructor, the 12 months that a candidate has to complete the testing process starts the day that this signature is affixed to the application.

Ted Schroll reported that there are plans to separate the regional schools from the CFPC in the budget document. This change should happen during this budget cycle.

There was a discussion about the DMV proposed changes to the "Q" license testing. A bill has been submitted that is continuing to move through the legislative process.

There remains a lot of speculation about what the bill will look like if passed. Tony Conte understands that the DOT annual inspection for fire Apparatus could be included in this bill.

Jeff Morrisette reported that additional DEEP funding could become available for Haz Mat training. An MOU is being completed and executed. In order to qualify for this funding, training needs to be completed by Sept. 30, 2013.

It was brought up that there was a conflict in schedule dates between the Education Committee April date (23) and the FDIC which program runs from April 22 - 27.

It was mentioned that Mike Varney would be invited to a subsequent meeting in order to discuss what connectivity might be desirable to incorporate into the technology design for the new fire schools.

Jim Baldis brought up the initiative to consolidate the dispatch operations for towns of fewer than 40,000 population. He also mentioned that the M.O.R.E. Commission was intent on regionalization of service delivery.

Motion to adjourn by Chris Tracy, seconded by Rich Winn. The meeting was adjourned at 20:22

Next meeting will be on May 31, 2013 at Wethersfield Company #3 at 19:00.

Submitted by Al Hawkins